imposition of a major penalty against the Zonal Manager, Amritsar;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE. IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRl JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) to (c) Punjab & Sind Bank has reported that it has examined the report of C. B. I, in respect of truck advances made at Mota Singh Nagar, Jalandhar branch and lhat regular departmental action for major, penalty proceedings has since been initiated against the concerned officer.

Irregularities committed in Delhi branches of S. B. I.

2705. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some officials of the State Bank of India have been victimised for divulging the loss of rupees two crores with the connivance of borrowers in Tis Hazari and Chandni Chowk, Delhi branches of S. B. I.;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-item which appeared in the Times of India of January 17, March 14, May 15 and July 12 of 1986 (Delhi Edition) in this connection; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to investigate into these frauds committed by the Bank officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRl JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) State Bank of India has reported that no one has been victimised for exposing any case of fraud.

(b) and (c) State Bank of India has reported that CBI has undertaken investigation of those allegations which, are specific.

Investment Deposit Account Scheme

2706. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions of the new investment Deposit Account Scheme, I 1986 recently started by Government at a simple interest of 10 percent per annum;

(b) the response of the investing public to this scheme so far; and

(c) the estimated deposits which Government hope to collect under this scheme every year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) to (c) Terms and conditions of "Investment Deposit Account Scheme, 1986" have been published in the Gazette of India-Extraordinary-Part II—Section 3—Sub-Section (i) dated 15th July, 1986 and the Scheme is being implemented by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI). IDBI has reported that deposits aggregating Rs. 5. 27 crores in respect of 106 accounts have been collected so far under the Scheme. Precise estitimates of the yearly deposits under the Scheme would be difficult at this stage.

Working of silk industry in Jammu and Kashmir

2707. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of TEX TILES be pleased to state: „

(a) whether Government are aware that the silk, industry in Jammu and Kashmir is in bad shape; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to revive the silk industry in Jammu and Kashmir on the lines of the silk industry in Karnataka ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The main problem of the Sericulture industry in Jammu & Kashmir is the existing system of marketing of cocoons, under which rearers have to sell their entire production of cocoons to State-owned reeling units only. This has resulted in unremunerative returns to the farmers of the State as compared to their counterparts in sericul-tuially developed states like Karnataka where there are no such marketing restrictions. Government of India have impressed upon the State Government that de-monopolisation is an absolute must for the survival of the Sericulture industry in J & K. and they have agreed *to* give serious thought to the problem.

Further, under the Central Sector, the jCentral Silk Board has a Regional Research Station with two Research Extension centres for extending R&D support for development of sericulture industry in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Two Basic SeiJ Farms and one Seed Production Centre have been established in the State to augment supply of quality silkworm seed, In addition to these, the Board has a Regional Office in Srinagar to coordinate sericultural activities of the ′region. The Board has also organised study visits of farmers from Jammu & Karnataka.

Clubbing of textile, industries into few groups

2708. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of TEX TILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for clubbing the textile industries as a whole into a few groups to- cater to specific consumer needs; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of viscose fibre

2709. HRI KAILASH PATI MISRA: SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether viscose fibre production is forest-based and is causing or likely to cause depletion of forests; and

(b) if so, whether prior clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests as mentioned above, will be made compulsory in the case of this industry ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: (a) and (b) Wood pulp is the basic raw material for production of viscose staple fibre. The impact of j viscose fibre production on Indian forests would depend on whether raw material is imported or made from domestic timber | and also on whether replacement planting: is undertaken. Existing procedures regarding sanction of fresh industrial capacity provide for a review of availability of raw material from different sources.

Solution of border disputes between India and China

2710. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the recent efforts made by the Government of India in the direction of peaceful solution of border disputes between India and China and the results-thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): It is the policy of the Government of India to find a peaceful and negotiated settlement of the boundary question with China, consistent with national honour and sovereignty. The recent efforts made: in this direction are:

(i) At the 7th Round of Official Level Talks in Beijing in July 1986, substantive discussions were continued on the Eastern Sector of the boundary. Discussions on the Western. Sector were also initiated, The Question of the recent Chinese intrusion in Sumdorong Chu Valley of Tawang District of Arunachal Pradesh was taken up by the leader of the Indian delegation, the Foreign Secretary, Shri A. P. Venkates-waran, with the Acting-Chinese Premier, Wan Li as well as with the Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xuekian.

(ii) At his meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister in New York on September 18, 1986 the then External Affairs Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, while discussing the Chinese intrusion, had emphasised that the Chinese Government should not have taken recourse to such action and that they should instead have consulted with the Government of India, if there were any doubts as to the location of the surrounding areas and the relative alignment of the Mc Mohan Line.

Robberies in banks

2711. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of incidents of robberies in banks in various parts of the